(f) what is the quantum of foreign exchange made available for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) There have been complaints that there is a shortage in the market for truck and bus tyres of certain specifications. According to the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association, these temporary shortages were due to the closure of MRF factory at Goa from October 1986 to April 1987 and the shortfalls in production in some other tyre factories on account of labour problems.

(c) Government is carefully watching the situation and may consider import of tyres if the need arises.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Cement production

47. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cement production in the country is adequate to meet the entire domestic requirement; and

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to export cement in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some Cement Companies are exploring the possibilities of exporting cement to neighbouring countries.

White Papers on Public Sector Enterprises

48. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the draft white paper on Public Sector enterprises in order to improve their performance has been prepared;

(b) if so, what measures have been suggested therein and whether Government propose to revamp the losing Public Sector units; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to revamp the losing public sector units and by when this work will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) The White Paper on Public Sector has not yet been prepared.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Strike in Public Sector enterprises

49. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that workers in some public sector enterprises have been on strike for the last several months;

(b) if so, what are the names of such public sector enterprises;

(c) what are the causes leading to the strikes in these public sector enterprises; and

(d) the steps contemplated by Government to streamline the functioning of the Public Sector Enterprises in order to stop the recurrence of strikes there?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) The workers of Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi were on strike for about two months. Lock-out was declared from 13.7.87.

(c) The causes of the strike are the multiplicity of unions, inter-union and intra-union rivalries and interference of outside elements.

(d) As a result of amicable settlement on 24.7.87, the lock-out has been lifted with immmediate effect.

Exploratory wells in the Cauvery Basin

50. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI K. GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of exploratory wells and also delineation wells which are functioning in the Cauvery basin at present and what is their production as on date;

(b) the number of each type of these wells which are expected to start functioning this year;

(c) what is the likely production of oil and natural gas from them in the current plan period;

(d) what is the amount sanctioned till date for the development of the Cauvery basin and out of it how much has been spent so far; and

(e) how much more is likely to be spent on the development of the Cauvery basin during the current plan period.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) Presently two wells have been put on extended production testing and the combined average daily production of oil is about 36 tonnes. Four more wells are also available for such production testing. By the end of VII Plan, it is tentatively planned to produce 0.15 MT of oil from the basin.

(d) and (e) Since the basin is still under exploration stage, the question of an outlay for development does not arise.

LPG Connections in Rajasthan

51. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been made to assess the need for LPG connections in Rajasthan and if so, the district-wise demand therefor;

(b) what is the number of LPG connections sanctioned in each district so far; and

(c) what is the future programme to meet the demand for LPG connections particularly in districts with large concentration of tribals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) While no survey to assess the demand for LPG connections in Rajasthan has been made, LPG is being marketed in all the 27 districts of the State. New distributorships at existing and new locations in Rajasthan also are established by the Oil Industry on the basis of demand potential and economic viability.

(b) The existing number of LPG connections in each district of Rajasthan is given in the statement annexed. (*See* below)

(c) LPG connections will continue to be released in Rajasthan under the annual customer enrolment programme of the Oil Industry keeping in view augmentation in the availability of LPG, bottling capacity and related infrastructure. A programme for